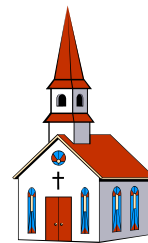


# Kimisis Close-Up



VOLUME 23, ISSUE 2

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH  
HOLMDEL, NJ

MARCH 2013

PRESIDING PRIEST: FATHER GEORGE H. DOUNELIS



*To Father George*

**Orthros: 9:00AM**  
**Divine Liturgy: 10:00AM**

*Special Needs Liturgy*  
*10:30AM*  
*1st Saturday of the Month*

## Inside This Issue

- A.H.E.P.A. Event-March 23
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## Get Well Prayer

*This get well prayer is sent with love  
A special request to GOD above*

*That HIS healing touch, soon be on the way  
Bringing for you well and brighter days.*

*May all the days ahead for you, be kind  
Blessing you with a healthy body, soul and mind.*

*Please know our dear Father George,  
That for you with love, we are always here.*

*GOD Bless You abundantly, is our prayer  
Always safely to be kept, in HIS loving care.*

*Anonymous*

*May God's healing touch restore  
the blessings of good health to you.*

*Your loving friends and parishioners  
of Kimisis Tis Theotokou*

## Church and Community Organization Leaders

Fr. George Dounelis-Protopresbyter

### PARISH COUNCIL

President : Dimitri Geaneas  
Vice President : Emanuel Tsarnas  
Secretary: Paul Callamaras Jr.  
Treasurer: Thomas Protentis  
Asst. Treasurer: James Thompson

Members:  
Matthew Bistrimovich  
Chris Churney  
Bessie Drogaris  
Stavros Fotinos  
James Marinos  
Argyrios Milonas  
Basil Parlamis  
Parry Peters  
Soteris Petrou  
Costa Phillipou  
Nikie Sourlis  
Elias Tsigounis  
Roula Tsoukaris

### ORGANIZATIONS

A.H.E.P.A.:	Robert Fourniadis
Acolyte Coordinator:	Emanuel Tsarnas
Art Program:	Susan Englis
Ballroom Dancing:	Sophie Idromenos
Bible Study:	Roula Merianos
Boy Scouts / Cub Scouts:	James Marinos/Nick Englis
Choir:	Marie Devino
Coffee Hour :	Harriet & Fred Callis
Community Center Rental:	Matt Bistrimovich, Emanuel Tsarnas
Festival:	Dimitri Geaneas
Girl Scouts:	Cheryl Bontales
G.O.Y.A./Youth Advisors:	Fr. George Dounelis, Basil Kotsis, Lucy Milonas, Theo Papasavas, Emanuel Tsarnas
Greek School:	Katina Hutin
Greek School PTO:	Katherine Gilbride
KCU Editor:	Cleo Bartos
KCU Ads:	Frieda Mookas
Kimisis Dancers:	Aphro Bucco
Men's Basketball:	Peter Kolydas
Philoptochos:	Josephine Tsarnas
Prime Timers:	Connie Mellas
Stewardship:	Helen Antholis, Frieda Mookas, Josephine Tsarnas
Sunday Bulletin:	Amalia Vapheas
Sunday School:	Nikie Sourlis
Tree of Life:	George Karatzia
Ways & Means:	George Karatzia
Website:	Dimitri Orfanitopoulos
Welcoming Committee	Helen Antholis, Frieda Mookas, Josephine Tsarnas , Roula Tsoukaris

*Update by Parish Council President, Dimitris Geaneas*

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By Dimitris Geaneas, President



Dear Family of Kimisis Tis Theotokou,

I hope our Kimisis Close-Up finds you and your family well. As this is my first message as President, I would like to thank the Parish Council for their confidence in me to lead and serve our community. I humbly acknowledge your support, and as your servant I commit myself to working fervently to achieve the best outcomes for our Church in all its endeavors.

I would like to thank my predecessor Robert Bucco Jr. for his three years of service to our Church. I would also like to thank the out-going Parish Council member Steve Bontales who has served our Parish with hard work, passion and enthusiasm for over fifteen years. At the same time, I welcome the two new members, Parry Peters and Tom Protentis.

My vision as President is to grow our Community in an environment of respect, harmony, fellowship and financial stability. In order to achieve this, I believe if we have Love (Agapi) as our driving force we will be propelled to successful outcomes. I would implore that we engrave upon our hearts 1 Corinthians 13, especially verses 4-7: "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

My mission, with the collaboration of the Parish Council and all the Parishioners, is to substantially improve our finances. Assuming no crisis, we only have 3 weeks of cash reserves on hand to pay our bills. In order to continue to maintain our Church and the services it provides to our Community, we need to increase our revenue and cash reserves to at least 2 months.

Stewardship last year contributed to less than 50% of our revenue. We do need to improve that percentage. According to the Archdiocese Finance Committee, Stewardship should be at an average of 70% to 80% of a Parish's revenue. The cost of maintaining our Church is \$1,100 per day. If every Parishioner set aside \$2 per day (less than a cup of coffee at Starbucks) for Stewardship, our revenues will increase from less than 50% to 60% and give us some breathing space. Knowing those numbers and their critical impact, I am sure we can all work together to achieve this Goal. Again, I turn to Apostle Paul, who in his second letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 9 advised, "...he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully... for God loves a cheerful giver..."

Regarding activities within our Community, Congratulations to the Kimisis Junior Basketball Team and their Coaches for winning the NJ District II Championship and completing an undefeated season of 7-0.

The Parish Council currently needs to raise funds to support the following capital expenses in the Community Center:

- 1) Repair Flashing on Fascia
- 2) New Gutters-Approximate cost \$9,000.
- 3) Curtains for the Stage to allow Sunday School to conduct classes-Cost to be Determined.

Your tax deductible donations towards any of these important projects will be greatly appreciated.

I will also kindly ask you, if you have not already pledged for 2013, to please join our list of Stewards by contacting Helen Antholis, or our Church secretary Frieda Mookas.

Before closing, I'd like to remind everyone to keep Fr. George in their prayers. We miss him and ask God to bless him and grant him a speedy recovery.

Nasthe panta kala/Me agapi,  
Dimitris Geaneas

KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU  
Greek Orthodox Church20 Hillcrest Road - Holmdel, New Jersey 07733  
Office: (732)739-1515 Fax: (732)739-1172

## Stewardship Update

by Helen Antholis, Stewardship Chair

### Renewing our commitment to Kimisis for 2013

So many of you have stepped forward to submit your 2013 form showing your commitment to Kimisis Tis Theotokou. We thank you.

Stewardship takes many forms – time, talent, and treasure. Your pledge keeps us growing and able to serve our community with much-needed support to the faithful. We are over 400 families who support a \$400,000 budget for Kimisis. Whatever your level of commitment, you can be assured that it is most appreciated.

### Time, Talent, Treasure

We welcome guest articles from parishioners on what Stewardship means to you. This month, Josephine Tsarnas has offered to write about it in this issue. Please contact me if you would like to write a brief article about what Stewardship means to you.

### STEWARDSHIP OFFERING ENVELOPES and TAX LETTERS

Would you like weekly Stewardship Offering Envelopes mailed to your home? Do you need a tax letter? If so, please contact me at [helenantholis@mac.com](mailto:helenantholis@mac.com). If you receive the offering envelopes and don't use them, contact me to have your name removed from our mailing list or call Frieda at 732-739-1515.

Thank you!

### 2013 Parish Council Swearing In

2/3/13



Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church  
20 Hillcrest Road - PO Box 367, Holmdel NJ 07733-0367

**Christian Stewardship  
Annual Commitment Card  
ONGOING STEWARDS for year 2013**

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's  
work at Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church for 2013 a

**TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be offered:

\* Weekly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. \$10)      \* Monthly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$50)

\* Quarterly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$150) \* Annually \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$600)

Please print

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

For continuing stewards, please provide updated current information (only changes from 2012):

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Cell/Work # \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/Work # \_\_\_\_\_

Christian Stewardship  
Annual Commitment Card  
**NEW STEWARDS for year 2013**

In gratitude for God's blessings, I/we pledge to contribute for Christ's work at Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church for 2013 a **TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT** of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be offered:

\* Weekly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g. \$10) \* Monthly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$50)

\* Quarterly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$150) \* Annually \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (e.g., \$600)

Please print

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (     ) \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Religion \_\_\_\_\_ Religion \_\_\_\_\_

Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Were you married in the Greek Orthodox Church? **YES / NO**

If Yes, list date and name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Age	Religion	Birthdate



*Guest Stewardship Article from:  
Josephine Michael Tsarnas  
The Gospel Reading Matthew Chapter  
25:14-30 this master gives three of his servants  
what it says in the Bible - **talents!***

**T**o follow the example in this gospel, let's say your boss gives you an extra task by giving you talents and says to you, "I want you to do something with it, grow it and to do good things with it, because when I come back I expect it to be even greater - to grow more."

Well, everyone is different and have their ways, their interests, talents and desires! Some have greater abilities to do things in their life, some have less. Whether we are given from the master; 5 talents or 2 or just 1! Our abilities, our time, our energy; all of it, is of great value! The point in this gospel reading; is no matter who we are, whether we are extremely wealthy in terms of our time, talent or treasure or whether we have a humble life and we are in society not seen as having a lot - it does not matter! Because all of it, is of great value to God! When we think about ourselves, our life and we apply it to the gospel reading; it is our role as Chris-

tians' and as a member of the Church. God expects us to use this great treasure He has given us, in a way to make it greater than he gave it to us!

There are individuals' who accept the responsibility to help carry and help their fellow human beings, putting their own lives in danger. We know that our lives are not meant only for ourselves. It is when we help our neighbor that we feel an overwhelming sense of completion. When we help our brothers and sisters, we fulfill the second part of the greatest commandment.

He gave us the wisdom and strength, not only be good stewards to our fellow Orthodox Christians, but also to be protectors for every person we encounter so that all can be lifted above pain, sorrow or suffering so we can help those who are less fortunate than we are in order to serve God and grow the Church!

If you have a gift, or calling no matter what it is... it could be a gift of art, photography, teaching, listening to others or the gift of music. Think of Marie Devino, Elia and Argiri, how with their talents lead our music in the

Church. This is merely one example of how to use your talent to build up the Church. If we sit back and think; it will just happen, we will be disappointed. We become disillusioned. We think of things that should be different but we have not moved one inch to make it better!

There is no special talent or capability required to love someone, to embrace someone! Everyone is capable of love! "We can all become stewards right now; I can be more patient, be more gentle, kind, be forbearing, forgiving, not gossip and above all, I can love" and this is what we are called to do! If we do these things we can build up our parish and then we will hear what the master told his servants. "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Me Agape~~



### Kimisis Community Cook Book -

Girl Scout Troop 337 of Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church will be publishing a Cook Book of favorite recipes offered by our community. The Girl Scouts interviewed many of our founding families and will feature authentic Greek-American recipes from many regions of Greece with a brief introduction to the recipes use. The book is the culmination of a Girl Scout Bronze Award project of our Junior Girl Scout Troop under the direction of Mrs. Mary Ellen Cestone. Ten years ago a group of Cadette Girl Scouts did a similar project for their Silver Award and interviewed founders Connie Mellas and Tess Minor and recorded the interview on video cassette for our archives. Those girls are now 24 years old and serving in Leadership roles in our community, I'm proud to say. This book will blend the recipes of both projects for all to enjoy. It's not too late to have your recipe featured in this book, but we have a deadline of April 1, 2013. If you are interested, please call Cheryl Bon-tales at (732)796-1006, or Mary Ellen Cestone at (732) 299-0288 to make arrangements to meet with one of our Girls. Interviews are generally done during coffee hour. You are welcome to mail your recipe and contact information to Mary Ellen Cestone 20 Tocci Avenue Monmouth Beach, NJ 07750. Your letter must be postmarked by April 1, 2013 to be entered. Be a part of history and be a part of our Girl Scout Community, helping Girls become competent, confident young women.



## Philoptochos Perspective

By Josephine Michael Tsarnas, President

**S**o Lady Gaga may have nine million followers on twitter, but Jesus Christ has billions throughout the centuries! His Word is our book of twitter. Those of us who are following Him in this world will have our share of troubles but will continue to be of good cheer! Do not dwell on material things in this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind and soul. "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

I recently read an article about a poll taken in Greece to determine how many people believe in God, how many attend church, how many recognize the hymns of Holy Week, but most importantly, how many people attend the service of the Resurrection and how many people actually stay after the lights go out! For those who are familiar, many have a weakness of coming for the light and upon receiving the light, they head for their cars. In

doing so, they miss the entire Divine Liturgy which follows, the most glorious part. And so the poll found that only 13% of all Orthodox Christians in Greece (98% of the population in Greece or 11.5M people) actually stay until the end of the Divine Liturgy of the greatest feast day of the year. The Pascal Divine Liturgy is the primary ecclesiastical of the year.

But there are those of us who care about our Orthodoxy, who are vigilantly learning our faith, actually listening and engaging our faith, not simply saying "we are Orthodox," but attempting to live it. We are all called to receive Holy Communion, those who have fasted and those who have not; those who feel worthy and those who feel they are not worthy. In the Pascal Sermon of St. John Chrysostom from the 4<sup>th</sup> Century, 1600 years ago, he calls "those who started at the beginning or those who came at the eleventh hour are all welcomed in the Lord's banquet." This

should fill our hearts with joy as it reminds us every year (if not every Sunday) that no matter what we do, God will always accept us. As long as we just try a little. Some of us have the capability of trying a lot, some of us have the capability of trying very little. You may be the most respected biblical scholar, but if you don't practice your beliefs and have faith, it does not matter how many books you have read. You have to reach the Lord through prayer, feed the soul and let God work through you!

We are here together as one family and we all share from the same cup! We are all one! We welcome new families into our community as Orthodox Christians do best; we embrace each other, we come together, we pray together, we share a meal together. This is the Holy Eucharist, the high point of the Divine Liturgy. Together, this month, let us all embrace each other and love one another.



### PHILOPTOCHOS RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY FOR OVER 80 YEARS!

*Has a loss of employment put you behind with your rent, mortgage or utility bills?*

*Are you swamped by out-of-pocket medical costs?*

*Are you having difficulty feeding your family?*

*Do you need help finding homecare for your mom?*

*Do you know someone who needs help, a friendly call or visit?*

**CONFIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE!**

***Contact Your Local Philoptochos:***

***By Calling President, Josephine Tsarnas (732) 441-1722***

*The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Inc. assists Greek Orthodox and Orthodox Christian individuals and families throughout the United States, as well as Greek and Cypriot nationals, regardless of their immigration status, who are in the U.S.A. Philoptochos is here to help!*

If any individual would like to contribute to our Social Services cause, please leave donations in the Poor Box located at the Church Narthex. Checks can be payable to Kimisis Philoptochos. (You can also say Tax-deductible checks)

**THE LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY/ BAHAMAS CHAPTER OF KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU**

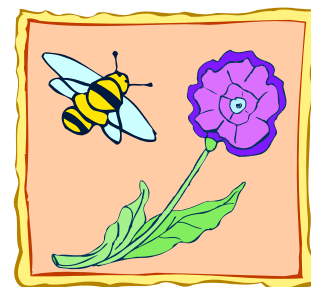


## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

By Nikie Sourlis, Joyce Magriples, Nausica Orthodoxou, Anna Zamora,

**Join us on Sunday, March 10**

### *Godparent's Sunday*



**T**he day we get to give back to the community and teach the children the importance of honoring their godparents. We start in church by receiving communion with their godparents. The children are welcome to stay in church and share the services with their godparents. They will participate in a special prayer given by Father George for all Godparents and Godchildren in attendance. Join us for this special experience along with the teachers and directors of Sunday School along with an extended coffee hour.

#### Important Upcoming Dates:

*March 18, 2013 - Great Lent Begins*

*March 24, 2013 - Sunday of Orthodoxy - Our 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades will participate with the Icon Procession carrying the icons they make in class.*

*April 7, 2013 - Sunday of the Holy Cross - Our K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades will participate with the Cross Procession carrying crosses made in with their classes.*

*April 27, 2013 - Saturday of Lazarus - A Didactic Liturgy Service/Communion Breakfast Attend Church and help make palm Crosses*

*April 28, 2013 - Palm Sunday No Classes - Family Worship*

*May 5, 2013 - Great and Holy Pascha - No Classes - Family Worship*

*May 12, 2013 - Mother's Day - No Classes - Family Worship*

*May 19, 2013 - Teacher Recognition Day - Last day of Sunday School*

*May 26, 2013 - No Classes - Family Worship - Memorial Day*

*June 2, 2013 - Graduation Day!*

**G.O.Y.A. NEWS** (Greek Orthodox Youth of America)

By Advisor, Theodora Papasavas

**O**ur **GOYA's basketball and volleyball** season has come to an end. Our boys basketball team and girls volleyball team each finished the season in third place. We are very proud of how everyone played and the show of sportsmanship to their fellow GOYAns. Our sincerest gratitude to our exceptionable coaches, Dr. Tony Patras (basketball) and Mr. Amine Kandalaf (volleyball) for their tireless dedication to our youth.

*Thank You*

On behalf of Bridges Outreach and the **Homeless Community of Newark Penn, NJ**, we wish to thank GOYAns Jason Andreadis, Christina Gregorakis, Juliana Magriples, Alex Milonas, Francesca Nizza, George & Marissa Petrou, Eleni & Kyra Sourlis and Maria Sourlis for braving the snow on 1/24/13 to help prepare the 100 lunches for delivery on the 25th. We also wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the following families who graciously donated the toiletries.

They are: Christina & Joseph Antonakakis, May Christodoulou, Dimitri & Irene Garidas, Nick & Peter Kollydas, Elias Kotsis, Matthew Nikitopoulos, Francesca Nizza, George Orthodoxou, George & Marissa Petrou, Christian, Michael & Steven Simon, Alexandra Stantzios, Evan & Stephan Tsarnas and Alexa Zamora. The citizens who reside at Newark Penn were ever so grateful! Representing our GOYA the next day to personally give the lunches and toiletry bags were GOYA President Mia Kandalaf and GOYAn Eleanna Makris along with advisors Mrs. Lucy Milonas and Mrs. Theo Papasavas.



**February** was a busy month for our GOYAns. They attended a Valentine's Dance at Saint George's Greek Orthodox Church in Trenton, continued throughout the month perfecting their Sounds performances and entertained the Kimisis community with a full dress rehearsal at the Sights & Sounds luncheon held on Sunday, February 24th.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Saturday, March 2nd** - Sights & Sounds Festival at Holy Trinity, Westfield.

**Sunday, March 17th** - GOYA Meeting

**Saturday - Sunday, March 23-24th** GOYA Retreat @ Kimisis Tis Theotokou with seminarians. Topics of discussion are: prayer, fasting, alms giving, why we go to church, why we are different from other faiths and what makes our Orthodox faith so special.

**Sunday, April 7th** - Greek Independence Day Parade - New York

**Saturday, April 27th** - GOYAn's help to make Palm Crosses

**Sunday, April 28** - GOYAn's Palm Cross Sale

## Holmdel Troop 531 Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts

By Nausica Orthodoxou

### PINEWOOD DERBY

Our Pinewood Derby was a big success as always. The boys all worked hard on making a racecar from a simple block of wood. They raced it on a wonderful new 40 ft. aluminum track thanks to Mr. Thermos and his family who donated it to our troop. BIG THANKS.



#### Fastest Car

- 1st Greg Haralampoudis
- 2nd TJ Shields
- 3rd Apostolos Maroulis

#### Most Creative

- 1st Evan Kolefas
- 2nd Anthony LaFonte
- 3rd John Kokkinakos



Thank you to Mr. Jim Marinos, Mr. Parry Peters, & Jimmy Peters for officiating our races.



### SCOUT SUNDAY

Thank you to Mr. Peters, Dr. Simon, Dr. Nicholas, Mr. LaFonte and Mr. Kokkinakos for their help in the kitchen and making those delicious pancakes for our pancake breakfast.

Thank you to Mrs. Kotsis and Mrs. Bartos for organizing our Valentine's sale. The funds from this event help to defray the cost of our Annual Blue & Gold Dinner.

### ANNUAL BLUE & GOLD DINNER- March 3

One of the highlights of the year, mark your calendar and don't miss it. We look forward to hosting you and all of your family. Please RSVP once the invite goes out so that food can be arranged. Dessert is all set as the boys make dessert with their dads based on Wild West Theme. So clear your calendar and join us that afternoon at 3:00 at the church gym for a memorable afternoon.

Email Mr. Englis if you could volunteer with set up, serving, or clean up every bit of help is appreciated.



by Cheryl Bontales and Mary Ellen Cestone

**K**imisis Tis Theotokou Girl Scout Troop 337 thanks all who purchased candy, nuts and cookies from our Girl Scouts. Purchasing these products help Girls with marketing and financial skills while helping the program that helps Girls grow strong. Visit our Cookie Booth Sale under the Tree of Life on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **Scout Sunday Awards**

Kimisis Girl Scouts joined Kimisis Boy Scouts in recognizing Scout Sunday in church following Divine Liturgy on February 3rd, where Religious Recognition awards were presented by Fr. George Daskalakis, and all Scouts, past and present recited the Scout Oath, Promise and Law in a rededication ceremony. It was quite moving to see at least 2 dozen past scouts (ages 20-60) stand and recite the oath with our current scouts. The following Girl Scouts received their awards.

### **St. George Religious Recognition Award**

Vasiliki Belitsis    Margaret Dounis

### **Chi Rho Religious Recognition Awards**

Jean Gilbride

Maria Otranto

### **My Promise My Faith Pin**

Christianna Simon

Christina Cestone

Jean Gilbride

Ava Lizardi

Maria Otranto

Diana Thermos

Carla Kandalaft

Gina Sannino

Noni Theocharides

Cassie Sannino

Mia Kandalaft

Lana Kandalaft



### **Thanks**

We wish to thank Mrs. Frieda Mookas for arranging our meeting rooms, Mr. Paul Callamaras for teaching at our meetings, Mr. Thermos for his Pine Wood Derby skills and donations and all the parents who help out at our meetings all year long. We are so grateful for our volunteers.

### **Information**

If you would like to become a Girl Scout or Adult Volunteer, contact Cheryl at [gsusaholm@aol.com](mailto:gsusaholm@aol.com). (732-796-1006) Our Leaders are; Evangelia Dounis – Daisy's, Julie Simon and Angie Belitsis - Brownies, Mary Ellen Cestone and Katherine Gilbride - Juniors, Angela Kazanis – Cadettes, Cheryl Bontales – Senior/Ambassador Girl Scouts. Please join us and have fun, learn new skills and develop lifelong friendships.

## Prime Timers Meetings & Events By Connie Mellas

March 7: Meeting Discussion for Theatre trip & A.C.  
Hostesses: Helen Certa, Tasoula Charitonidis

March 24: Miss Anthe Haliotis & America, America

April 4: Last meeting for season ~ by Savas Charitonides

11:30 A.M.-- Meeting/Lunch at Middletown Diner Hwy. 35,  
Middletown Fanni & Michael Manaitho

May 9: Preparation for Festival - Recess

June: Summer Recess- Festival

July: Summer Recess

August: Summer Recess ~Panayia

September 5: Welcome Back. Discussion, A.C. & theatre, Astoria.

October 3: Discussion A.C. trip

November 7: 12<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving Lunch Celebration. (Location TBD)

December 5: Meeting

Dec 10: Christmas Celebration covered dish

*The Prime Timers sends Get Well Wishes to Father George.*

**\*\*Holy Days..Church services ---**  
Meeting will take place after liturgy

See Prime Timers bulletin board for  
change in dates

Snow days: Call Secretary : Call  
Fran Haliotis--732-804-2518 or

Phone Squad Captain --Agatha Papadoulis—732-851-4625

Thank you

Connie Mellas & Committees

Me Agapi!!!!

MARCH 7th

MEETING TIME--11:30  
A.M.

PLACE: All Purpose  
Room



### Kimisis Ballroom Program (Adults)

**Every Sunday after coffee hour in the all purpose room, only \$10 a class. 100% of the proceeds go to the church! No partner or previous classes required.**

**Site: <http://tiny.cc/kimisisballroom>**





## GREEK SCHOOL NEWS

By Katherine Gilbride



### March 25<sup>th</sup> - Greek Independence Day Celebration:

This year the Greek School will celebrate Greek Independence Day on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The celebration will be held after the Divine Liturgy in the Gym. Everyone is welcome to attend with their family and friends to enjoy the festivities, and to support and admire the children. Please join us! Wave your flag and feel the Greek national pride. ZHTO H ELLADA!!

During this month our students will prepare for the celebration of Greek Independence Day. Children will be reciting poems, singing songs to remind us of the importance of this day. Children attending the celebration should be dressed in blue and white or in ethnic costume.

In preparation, please remember we need PTO members to volunteer their time and/or donate food. Details will be available through email.

The Greek Independence Day Parade in New York City will take place on Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The Parish Council has asked if anyone from the Greek School would like to attend and/ or march in the parade. If many people commit to attend, they will reserve a bus. Your entire family can go on the bus. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Mary Ellen Cestone, who is assisting them on this task. Her email is [mariaeleni5@comcast.net](mailto:mariaeleni5@comcast.net).

### Greek Independence Day - March 25, 1821:

For 368 years, the Greeks were enslaved and suffered under Turkish rule. The people couldn't go where they wanted to go, couldn't speak freely, and didn't have schools for their children to learn Greek. The Turks didn't want the Greek children to learn their language, their religion, and the history of their country. Because of this, at night the children secretly would go to school. These "secret schools" were in churches and most of the teachers were priests. The Turks took property, livestock and whatever the Greeks owned.

On March 25, 1821, the Greeks took weapons to fight the Turks to acquire their freedom. They fought for 8 years. In the end, they won, and gained their freedom. It is on this day, March 25<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate Greek Independence Day, a national holiday in Greece.

**REMEMBER** to check our bulletin board in the hallway and admire the display from our children.

Information and upcoming events are available through our email system. If you are not receiving emails, please contact Katherine Gilbride at [ksgilbride1@yahoo.com](mailto:ksgilbride1@yahoo.com) so that you can be added to the email distribution list.



## KIMISIS TIS THEOTOKOU ANNUAL FESTIVAL June 6-9, 2013

**2013 Festival : June 6 through June 9** ( Thursday from 6 pm to 10 pm, Friday from 4 pm to 11 pm, Saturday from 1 pm to 11 pm, Sunday from 12 noon to 8 pm)  
Festival Set-Up: June 5 ( Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 9 pm)  
Festival Knock-Down: June 9 (Sunday from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm)

### **2013 Pre-Festival Meetings:**

March 5, Tuesday

April 2, Tuesday

April 23, Tuesday

April 30, Tuesday

May 14, Tuesday

May 21, Tuesday

May 28, Tuesday

Time: 8 pm to 9:30 pm

Place: Church-Library

## GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

Dear Kimisis Tis Theotokou Family,

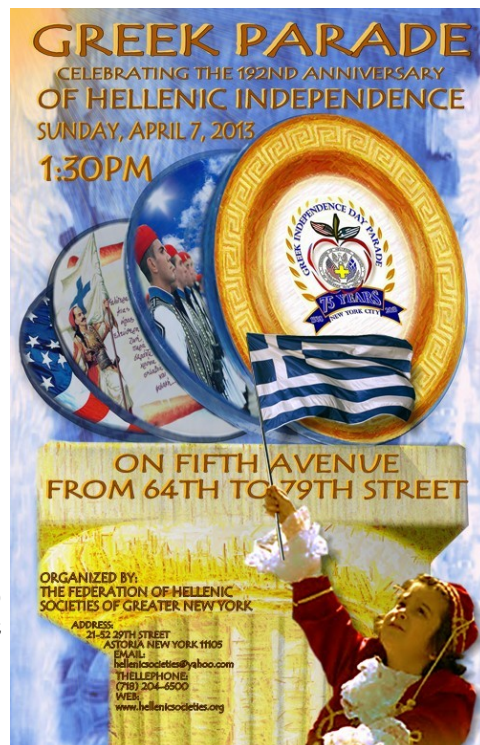
This year, the Greek National Independence Day-Parade in NYC will take place on Sunday, April 7th. It has been 192 years since that spark of liberation was lit by Bishop Yermanos in a small church outside Patra on March 25, 1821, and like wildfire it spread across the entire land and reached all the Philhellenes across the world encouraging them to rise for the Glory of Greece. Since that glorious day, Hellenism has come a long way.

Our Community has abstained from participating in this event for the past several years. The time has come to be part of it again, and re-ignite pride in our Heritage.

Kimisis Parishioners and e.g. Greek School, A.H.E.P.A, Sunday School ,etc.) are kindly urged to contact Mary Ellen Cestone at mariaeleni5@comcast.net and confirm their support and participation in the celebration of this very important, historical event.

For More Information, visit the website:

<http://hellenicsocieties.org/PARADES.html>



## 2013 Coffee Hour & Sunday Fundraisers By Harriett Callis

Mar 3	Ballroom Dancers
Mar 10	Godparents Sunday
Mar 17	Girl Scouts
Mar 24	Greek School
Mar 31	Philoptochos
Apr 7	Altar Boys
April 14	Beginner Dancers
April 21	GOYA
April 28	<i>Palm Sunday Luncheon</i>
May 5	<i>Pascha</i>
May 12	Parish Council
May 19	AHEPA
*May 26	<i>Need Volunteers</i>
June 2	GOYA

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**ORGANIZATIONS NEED TO DONATE  
THE FOLLOWING:**

- Three (3) Gallons Juice
- One (1) Gallon Milk
- Children's Cookies (approx. 6 pkgs.)
- Adult Pound Cake (for about 80)
- Fruit (for allergic and non-gluten individuals)

**Hosting organization must clean up the kitchen**



## Hellenic Dancers of New Jersey, Inc.

Celebrate Greek Independence Day

in a

Journey to Greece through Dance

Sunday March 17, 2013

at the

Holmdel High School Theater

Crawfords Corner Road, Holmdel NJ

(one mile from Kimisis Tis Theotokou)

The Hellenic Dancers of New Jersey, Inc. will be featuring a performance of Greek Folk Dances at the Holmdel High School Theater on March 17, 2013 from 3 to 5pm. The professional dance troupe is comprised of second and third generation Greek-American young adults from all over NJ. However, Kimisis is proud of it's many Kimisis youth dancers who eventually became Hellenics over the past 40 years. Currently there are over 12 of our Kimisis youth in the dance troupe, Joseph Antonakakis, Daphne Bistimovich, Alaina Bontales, Christie Bontales, Stephanie Bontales, Michael Emmanuel Simon, Anthony Favara, Anthe Haliotis, Tina Hiras, Elias Kotsis, Sofia Kotsis, Melina Magriples, Eleanna Makris, Alexis Marinos, Greg Marinos and Connie Protentis. Seating is limited to 500 people. A Greek pastry sale of authentic homemade delicacies will be offered during intermission of this 2 segment production. **All tickets for the event are \$20**, and will be available at the door. **Advance reservations** for this event can be made by contacting **Cheryl Bontales, 732.796.1006; [bontsc@aol.com](mailto:bontsc@aol.com)**. This event is funded in part by the Hellenic Dancers of New Jersey, Inc., and New Jersey State Council on the Arts - Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

For more information [www.hellenicdancersofnj.org](http://www.hellenicdancersofnj.org)

Or contact Cheryl Bontales, HDNJ Corresponding Secretary at [BONTSC@aol.com](mailto:BONTSC@aol.com)

## Capital Improvement Fund

## Appeal for Sound System

by Bill Parlamis,  
Parish Council member



The Capital Improvement fund was established as a separate account in order to collect funds necessary to make improvements to our church, community center, and property. The most recent project was the installation of a new sound system for the church, narthex, and church entrance. The cost of this project is approx. \$10,500 . We are so appreciative to the congregation for their generosity in so many ways. Yet, with this we have another appeal to fulfill.

Yes, the second tray on Sundays does go to the capital improvement fund. This tray usually generates approx. \$200 per week depending on attendance. The cost of the new sound system must be paid in full by our church's annual festival in the spring. As you can see, we cannot depend solely on the tray. We need your help.

Our church is our home, and we are so blessed to be able to congregate each and every week in our most beautiful House of God. The importance of delivering God's message in a clear manner is the reason the Parish Council decided on the new sound system.

Please donate whatever you can towards this appeal. Together if we give what we can, enough funds will be collected to pay the balance due by the Spring. Donations should be made out to the Kimisis Capital Improvement Fund, please note on the check "Sound System".

*Thank you in advance for responding to this appeal, and your never-ending generosity and love for our church.*

Kimisis Tis Theotokou  
Greek Orthodox Church  
Holmdel, NJ

**2013 GREEK FESTIVAL  
SPONSOR FORM**

Please indicate your Sponsor Level below:

<u>DONATION</u>	<u>SPONSOR LEVEL</u>	<u>RECOGNITION</u>
_____ \$1000 (monetary donors only) <u>Select Booth:</u> Kitchen      Burgers Souvlaki      Coffee Pastry      Beer/Soda Boutique      Loucoumades	Booth Sponsor	Name or business printed on an approximate <b>2' x 4' sign on a Booth</b> , appear on our <b>Kimisis.com website</b> for one full year, listed in the <b>Festival Program</b> , printed in the Church's newsletter the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> and <b>free</b> <b>admission tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$500	Platinum Sponsor	Name or business listed appear the <b>Kimisis.com</b> <b>website</b> for one full year, listed in the <b>Festival</b> <b>Program</b> and the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> , and <b>free</b> <b>admission tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$250	Gold Sponsor	Name or business listed in the <b>Festival Program</b> and the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> and <b>free admission</b> <b>tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$100	Silver Sponsor	Name or business printed in the <b><i>Kimisis Close Up</i></b> and <b>free admission tickets</b> to the Festival.
_____ \$50	Booster	<b>Free admission tickets</b> <u>to the Festival.</u>

**SPONSOR**(as you prefer to appear) \_\_\_\_\_

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**TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make checks payable to: Kimisis Tis Theotokou Greek Orthodox Church - Festival*  
Please send to: PO Box 367, Holmdel, NJ 07733-0367





**Order of Ahepa**  
Garden State Chapter 517  
Holmdel, New Jersey 07733

### Admission : Free

#### When:

- March 24, 2013 - Sunday
- Doors open at 2:00
- Program starts 3:00pm

#### Location :

- Kimisis Tis Theotokou
- 20 Hillcrest Rd, Holmdel

#### Complimentary :

- Coffee , Tea , Soda
- Cookies, Pastries
- Popcorn

Purpose of program is to celebrate Greek Independence after 400 years under the Ottoman Empire.

A young Anatolian Greek, entrusted with his family's fortune, loses it en route to Istanbul and dreams of going to America,

Though this program is FREE, we will be asking for voluntary donations to help our neighbors who have been devastated by Hurricane Sandy.

The mission of the AHEPA Family is to promote Hellenism, Education, Philanthropy, Civic Responsibility, and Family and Individual Excellence.

Philanthropy and volunteerism have been pillars of strength for AHEPA. From natural disaster relief to raising funds for the elimination of life-threatening diseases to making significant contributions to our local neighborhoods, AHEPA is at the forefront of charitable giving.

Order of AHEPA Garden State Chapter 517 [www.ahepa517.com](http://www.ahepa517.com)

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### ***The Spirit of Lent***

A Choral Offering of Ancient and Modern Works in English and Greek

Kathryn Athanasoulas, Director

E. Hope Demitry, Organist

**Friday, April 26, 2013, 8:00 p.m.**

**Donation \$10.00, under 12 free**

Refreshments following program

<http://www.stgeorgeap.org/>

*A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Metropolis of NJ Philoptochos Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Fund*



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